

**AUGUST 6, 2012  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
PARMA CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
7 P.M.**

The Regular Council Meeting was called to order by President of Council Sean P. Brennan presiding.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:      DEBORAH LIME  
   LARRY NAPOLI  
   SCOTT M. TUMA  
   BRIAN BROCHETTI  
   MARK CASSELBERRY  
   BRIAN DAY  
   ALLAN DIVIS  
   MARY GALINAS

COUNCIL MEMBER EXCUSED:      ROY J. JECH

Mr. Ramser – Mr. President, the Roll of Council has been called, and I find a quorum of Council members present. The following officials and department heads were also present: Mayor Tim DeGeeter, Law Director Timothy Dobeck, Auditor Dennis Kish, Treasurer Tom Mastroianni, Service Director Brian Higgins, Safety Director Gregory Baeppler, Communications and Community Relations Director Jeannie Roberts, Recreation Commissioner Mickey Vittardi, Director of Human Resources Thomas Weinreich, Senior Citizen Director Jo Ann Mason, Community Development Director Erik Tollerup, Chief of Staff Mike Culp, Director of Public Housing Lev Kulchytsky and Clerk of Council Kenneth A. Ramser.

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The Invocation was given by Clerk of Council Kenneth A. Ramser.  
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PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

DISPOSAL OF JOURNAL

Mr. Brennan – We have the Minutes from the Regular Council Meeting and Public Hearing of July 2, 2012. Asked if there were any additions or corrections to the Minutes? Stated, hearing none, the Minutes will stand approved as printed.

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COMMUNICATIONS PETITIONS AND CLAIMS

The Parma Board of Zoning Appeals met on Tuesday, July 10, 2012, and PROPOSED TO VARY, subject to the provisions of amended Ordinance 1127 .13 (confirmation or rejection by Council within forty days of the receipt of this notice) FOR THE APPLICANT Mr. Carl Reed, 4013 Pershing Ave, 44134 for property at 5701 State Rd. PPN is 444-24-003

After discussion Mr. Mastrobuono made the following motion:

"I make a motion to recommend to Council to GRANT to Mr. Carl Reed, 4013 Pershing Ave, 44134 a "Use" variance of the City of Parma Codified Ordinances of Section 1170.03 – PLANNING & ZONING CODE – SCHEDULE OF PERMITTED BUILDINGS

AND USES. The proposal is to run "cyber" store selling new and used merchandise at 5701 State Road that is located in Retail Business District, which prohibits junk dealers, pawnbrokers and secondhand dealers. Buildings and land shall be used, and buildings shall be designed, erected, altered, moved or maintained in whole or in part only for uses set forth in schedules and regulations. The variance would result in allowing for business use not permitted in Retail Business District. The PPN is 444-24-003. The essential characteristics of the neighborhood would not be altered, the spirit and intent of the Zoning Board requirement would be observed and substantial justice would be done by granting the variance.

Mr. Yurkiw seconded the motion. Mr. Crossman, Mr. Ziefle and Mr. O'Connor voted no. Mr. Yurkiw and Mr. Mastrobuono voted yes. Variance denied.

Also be it noted that variances once granted, shall not be withdrawn or changed unless there is a change of circumstances or if after the expiration of six months no substantial construction is done in accordance with the terms and condition for which such variances were granted. In which case the Building Commissioner shall give notice in writing, and thirty days thereafter the variance will be deemed null and void, and all regulations governing such premises in question shall revert back to those in effect before the variance was granted.

Mr. Brennan – Said Variance will be referred to the Planning Committee.

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The Parma Board of Zoning Appeals met on Tuesday, July 10, 2012, and PROPOSED TO VARY, subject to the provisions of amended Ordinance 1127 .13 (confirmation or rejection by Council within forty days of the receipt of this notice) FOR THE APPLICANT Melissa Lopez of Petsmart, 6870 Ridge Rd. PPN is 455-02-001.

After discussion Mr. Ziefle made the following motion:

"I make a motion to recommend to Council to GRANT to Melissa Lopez of PetSmart Inc., 19601 North 27 Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85027 has requested an "Use" variance of the City of Parma Codified Ordinances of Section 1170.03 – PLANNING AND ZONING CODE – SCHEDULE OF PERMITTED BUILDINGS AND USES. The proposal is to add adoption center which would include overnight boarding in Retail Business area which prohibits animal boarding including kennels at 6870 Ridge Rd. Buildings and land shall be used, and building shall be designed, erected, altered, moved or maintained in whole or in part only for uses set forth in schedules and regulations. This variance would result in allowing for business use not permitted in Retail Business District. The PPN is 455-02-001. By granting this variance the characteristic of the neighborhood would not be substantially altered, by granting this variance the spirit and intent of the Zoning Board requirements would be observed.

Mr. Yurkiw seconded the motion. Mr. Crossman, Mr. Ziefle, Mr. Yurkiw, Mr. Mastrobuono and Mr. O'Connor voted yes.

Also be it noted that variances once granted, shall not be withdrawn or changed unless there is a change of circumstances or if after the expiration of six months no substantial construction is done in accordance with the terms and condition for which such variances were granted. In which case the Building Commissioner shall give notice in writing, and thirty days thereafter the variance will be deemed null and void, and all regulations governing such premises in question shall revert back to those in effect before the variance was granted.

Mr. Brennan – Said Variance will be referred to the Planning Committee.

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Request for representation received from Law Director Timothy Dobeck regarding Justin Russell v. City of Parma, et. al, Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Case No. CV-12-786507. Motion made by Councilman Day seconded by Councilwoman Galinas to approve the representation. Motion carried.

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Notice received from Ohio Division of Liquor Control for a transfer of a D1 Permit to Yalla LLC, dba Tarboosh Eatery, 1144 W. Pleasant Valley Road, Parma, Ohio 44134, from Asia Garden Inc., 1144 W. Pleasant Valley Road, Parma, Ohio 44134. Mailed on July 5, 2012. Responses must be postmarked no later than August 6, 2012.

Mr. Brennan – Said Liquor Permit has been referred to the Safety Director and Ward Councilman.

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Card received from Pat White and the Family of Emily Jarowski thanking everyone for their kindness shown.

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**VOICE VOTE**

RESOLUTION NO. 150-12      8/6/12      L-150-12  
BY: S. M. TUMA, AND ALL MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

A RESOLUTION HONORING LES THWAITES CITIZEN  
OF THE MONTH – JUNE, 2012

Motion made by Councilman Day seconded by Councilwoman Galinas to adopt Resolution No. 150-12. Motion carried.

Councilman Tuma – presented Mr. Thwaites with a Resolution along with certificates from the Treasurer and Law Director.

Mayor DeGeeter – Presented Mr. Thwaites with a Proclamation and congratulated him.

Mr. Thwaites – Thanked everyone.

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**FIRST READING:**

ORDINANCE NO. 103-12      8/6/12      L-103-12  
BY: S. M. TUMA

AN ORDINANCE TO CONVEY PERMANENT PARCEL NOS.  
450-02-005 AND 450-02-006, LOCATED ON WEST RIDGEWOOD  
DRIVE, WITH DEED RESTRICTIONS, TO THE CITY OF PARMA,  
AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mr. Brennan – Said Ordinance will be referred to the Public Service Committee.

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RESOLUTION NO. 146-12      8/6/12      L-146-12  
BY: S. M. TUMA  
(By Request - Building Commissioner)

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE BUILDING COMMISSIONER TO  
INSTITUTE SUMMARY NUISANCE ABATEMENT OF PERMANENT PARCEL  
NUMBER 449-13-078, 7611 WAINSTEAD DRIVE, PARMA, OHIO, AND

DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mr. Brennan – Said Resolution will be referred to the Public Safety Committee.

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ORDINANCE NO. 147-12      8/6/12      L-147-12

BY: B. DAY  
(By Request - Safety Director)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF SAFETY JACKETS FOR THE CITY OF PARMA FIREFIGHTERS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mr. Brennan – Said Ordinance will be referred to the Finance Committee.

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ORDINANCE NO. 152-12      8/6/12      L-152-12

BY: S. M. TUMA  
(By Request – Service Director)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE LOWEST AND BEST BIDDER FOR THE GIANT EAGLE WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT AT DAY DRIVE IN THE CITY OF PARMA, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mr. Brennan – Said Ordinance be referred to the Finance Committee.

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ORDINANCE NO. 154-12      8/6/12      L-154-12

BY: S. M. TUMA  
(By Request – Service Director)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE LOWEST AND BEST BIDDER FOR THE PURCHASE OF MOTOR OIL AND LUBRICANTS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mr. Brennan – Said Ordinance will be referred to the Finance Committee.

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RESOLUTION NO. 155-12      8/6/12      L-155-12

BY: R. J. JECH  
(By Request – Law Director)

A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE NECESSITY AND INTENT OF THE CITY OF PARMA TO APPROPRIATE A SANITARY SEWER EASEMENT IN CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY KNOWN AS PERMANENT PARCEL NUMBER 447-22-122, LOCATED AT 6510 WEST RIDGEWOOD DRIVE, IN THE CITY OF PARMA, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mr. Brennan – Said Resolution will be referred to the Public Service Committee.

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**SECOND READING:**

ORDINANCE NO. 130-12      7/2/12      L-130-12  
BY: D. LIME  
(By Request – Community Services & Economic Development Director)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TO IMPLEMENT THE 2012 NUISANCE DEMOLITION PROGRAM AND FOR THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE LOWEST AND BEST BIDDER FOR THE DEMOLITION OF ALL DESIGNATED DWELLING STRUCTURES AND GARAGES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Motion made by Councilwoman Lime seconded by Councilman Day to refer Ordinance No. 130-12 back to the Public Service Committee. Motion carried.

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ORDINANCE NO. 131-12      7/2/12      L-131-12  
BY: D. LIME  
(By Request – Community Services & Economic Development Director)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TO IMPLEMENT THE 2012 STREETScape IMPROVEMENT PROJECT AND FOR THE DIRECTOR OF OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE LOWEST AND BEST BIDDER FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF ALL DESIGNATED BLIGHTED SECTIONS OF COMMERCIAL CURB, PUBLIC SIDEWALK, CATCH BASIN AND TREE LAWN, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Motion made by Councilwoman Lime seconded by Councilman Day to refer Ordinance No. 131-12 to the Finance Committee. Motion carried.

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ORDINANCE NO. 132-12      7/2/12      L-132-12  
BY: D. LIME  
(By Request – Community Services & Economic Development Director)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TO IMPLEMENT THE 2012 SIDEWALK, CURB AND CATCH BASIN PROJECT AND FOR THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE LOWEST AND BEST BIDDER FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF ALL DESIGNATED BLIGHTED SECTIONS OF RESIDENTIAL PUBLIC SIDEWALK, CURB AND CATCH BASIN, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Motion made by Councilwoman Lime seconded by Councilman Day to refer Ordinance No. 132-12 back to the back to the Public Service Committee. Motion carried.

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ORDINANCE NO. 140-12      7/2/12      L-140-12  
BY: S. M. TUMA  
(By Request – City Engineer)

AN ORDINANCE LEVYING SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO DENTZLER ROAD, GLENCAIRN DRIVE, BROADVIEW ROAD AND GETTYSBURG DRIVE IN THE CITY OF PARMA, OHIO, CONSISTING OF THE CONSTRUCTION OF SANITARY SEWERS TOGETHER WITH ALL NECESSARY APPURTENANCES THERETO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Motion made by Councilman Tuma seconded by Councilman Day to refer Ordinance No. 140-12 back to the Finance Committee. Motion carried.

**SECOND READING SUSPENSION:**

ORDINANCE NO. 141-12      7/2/12      L-141-12  
BY: S. M. TUMA  
(By Request – Clerk of Court)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CLERK OF COURT TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH PITNEY BOWES FOR THE LEASE OF AN INTEGRATED ELECTRONIC MAILING SYSTEM FOR THE PARMA MUNICIPAL COURT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mr. Brennan – Shall the statutory provision and Rule 48 requiring the full and distinct reading of Ordinance No. 141-12 on three different days be dispensed with?

Yes: Lime, Napoli, Tuma, Brochetti, Casselberry, Day, Divis, Galinas.

No: None; motion carried.

Motion made by Councilman Day seconded by Councilman Napoli to adopt Ordinance No. 141-12.

Yes: Lime, Napoli, Tuma, Brochetti, Casselberry, Day, Divis, Galinas.

No: None; Ordinance No. 141-12 is adopted.

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**THIRD READING:**

ORDINANCE NO. 83-12      5/7/12      L-83-12  
BY: L. NAPOLI  
(By Request - City Engineer)      (As Amended)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE LOWEST AND BEST BIDDER FOR SANITARY SEWER IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE PARKHAVEN DRIVE AND BROADVIEW ROAD SANITARY SEWER PROJECT IN THE CITY OF PARMA, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Motion made by Councilman Tuma seconded by Councilman Day to amend Ordinance No. 83-12 as follows: In Section 1, line 2, insert "Fabrizi Trucking and Paving Co." and on line 4, insert "\$1,072,486.00." Also, in Section 3, line 2, insert "Fund No. 473-473" and Account No. "62110-08312". Further moved to waive Rule 52 and place Ordinance No. 83-12 on Third Reading for final passage as amended. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilman Day seconded by Councilwoman Galinas to adopt Ordinance No. 83-12 as amended.

Yes: Lime, Napoli, Tuma, Brochetti, Casselberry, Day, Divis, Galinas.

No: None; Ordinance No. 141-12 is adopted as amended.

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ORDINANCE NO. 126-12      6/18/12      L-126-12  
BY: B. DAY, D. LIME, L. NAPOLI, S. M. TUMA, B. BROCHETTI,  
M. CASSELBERRY, A. DIVIS, M. GALINAS  
(By Request – Safety Director)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND THE DIRECTOR  
OF PUBLIC SAFETY TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE  
LOWEST AND BEST BIDDER FOR PAVEMENT MARKINGS, AND  
DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Motion made by Councilman Tuma seconded by Councilman Day to amend Ordinance No. 126-12 as follows: In Section 1, line 2, insert "A & A Safety, Inc.", and on line 3, insert "\$132,722.88". Further moved to waive Rule 52 and place Ordinance No. 126-12 on Third Reading for final passage as amended.

Motion made by Councilman Day seconded by Councilwoman Galinas to adopt Ordinance No. 127-12 as amended.

Yes: Lime, Napoli, Tuma, Brochetti, Casselberry, Day, Divis, Galinas.

No: None; Ordinance No. 127-12 is adopted as amended.

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RESOLUTION NO. 127-12      6/18/12      L-127-12  
BY: L. NAPOLI, D. LIME, S. M. TUMA, B. BROCHETTI, M. CASSELBERRY,  
B. DAY, A. DIVIS, M. GALINAS  
(By Request – City Engineer)

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE ADOPTION OF THE COUNTYWIDE  
ALL NATURAL HAZARDS MITIGATION PLAN FOR CUYAHOGA COUNTY,  
2011 UPDATE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Motion made by Councilman Day seconded by Councilwoman Galinas to adopt Resolution No. 127-12.

Yes: Lime, Napoli, Tuma, Brochetti, Casselberry, Day, Divis, Galinas.

No: None; Resolution No. 127-12 is adopted.

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**SUSPENSION OF THE RULES:**

Mr. Brennan – Shall the statutory provision and Rule 48 requiring the full and distinct reading of Ordinance No. 145-12, Resolution No. 148-12, Resolution No. 149-12, Resolution No. 151-12, and Ordinance No. 153-12 on three different days be dispensed with?

Yes: Lime, Napoli, Tuma, Brochetti, Casselberry, Day, Divis, Galinas.

No: None; motion carried.

Mr. Brennan – Shall Rule 45 requiring reference to committee be dispensed with and Ordinance No. 145-12, Resolution No. 148-12, Resolution No. 149-12, Resolution No. 151-12, and Ordinance No. 153-12 be placed on final passage?

Yes: Lime, Napoli, Tuma, Brochetti, Casselberry, Day, Divis, Galinas.

No: None; motion carried.

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ORDINANCE NO. 145-12      8/6/12      L-145-12

BY: S. M. TUMA

(By Request - Service Director)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH CUYAHOGA COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY INC. FOR THE REIMBURSEMENT FOR A CITY PROJECT FOR ROAD LIGHTING AND PARKING LOTS IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY PROJECT LOCATED ON WEST RIDGEWOOD DRIVE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

(SEE ATTACHED VERBATIM COMMENTS REGARDING THIS LEGISLATION)

Motion made by Councilman Day seconded by Councilwoman Galinas to adopt Ordinance No. 145-12.

Yes: Napoli, Napoli, Tuma, Brochetti, Casselberry, Day, Divis, Galinas.

No: Lime; Ordinance No. 145-12 is adopted.  
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RESOLUTION NO. 148-12      8/6/12      L-148-12

BY: S. M. TUMA

(By Request – Auditor)

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CITY AUDITOR'S CASH TRANSFERS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Motion made by Councilman Day seconded by Councilwoman Galinas to adopt Resolution No. 148-12.

Yes: Lime, Napoli, Tuma, Brochetti, Casselberry, Day, Divis, Galinas.

No: None; Resolution No. 148-12 is adopted.  
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BY: S. M. TUMA  
(By Request – Auditor)

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CITY AUDITOR'S POST CERTIFICATION  
OF REQUISITIONS AS DETAILED IN EXHIBIT "A" AND DECLARING AN  
EMERGENCY

Motion made by Councilman Day seconded by Councilwoman Galinas to adopt  
Resolution No. 149-12.

Yes; Lime, Napoli, Tuma, Brochetti, Casselberry, Day, Divis, Galinas.

No: None; Resolution No. 149-12 is adopted.

BY: D. LIME, L. NAPOLI, S. M TUMA, B. BROCHETTI, M. CASSELBERRY,  
B. DAY, A. DIVIS, M. GALINAS  
(By Request – Service Director)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AUDITOR TO ACCEPT THE  
DONATION OF CURRENT SICK LEAVE ACCUMULATION INTO THE  
SICK LEAVE ACCOUNT OF BOB YAGL IN ORDER TO CONTINUE  
HIS PAYROLL WHILE HE IS OFF WORK DUE TO AN ILLNESS, AND  
DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Motion made by Councilman Day seconded by Councilwoman Galinas to adopt  
Resolution No. 151-12.

Yes: Lime, Napoli, Tuma, Brochetti, Casselberry, Day, Divis, Galinas.

No: None; Resolution NO. 151-12 is adopted.

BY: S. M. TUMA  
(By Request – Auditor)

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE 2012 PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS  
OF THE CITY OF PARMA, OHIO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Motion made by Councilman Day seconded by Councilwoman Galinas to adopt  
Ordinance No. 153-12.

Yes: Lime, Napoli, Tuma, Brochetti, Casselberry, Day, Divis, Galinas.

No: None; Ordinance No. 153-12 is adopted.

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APPOINTMENTS AND CONFIRMATIONS

Councilman Casselberry – Stated that the Appointment Scanning Committee met  
to consider the following request from Mayor DeGeeter: Appointment of Jeffrey A.  
Crossman to the Planning Commission Board. This appointment will be for a three year  
term ending on August 6, 2018. Motion made by Councilman Casselberry seconded by  
Councilwoman Galinas to confirm the appointment of Jeffrey A. Crossman as  
recommended by the Appointment Scanning Committee. Motion carried.

PUBLIC SESSION AND MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS  
(SEE ATTACHED VERBATIM COMMENTS)

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REPORT ON ABSENT OFFICIALS

Motion made by Councilman Day seconded by Councilman Napoli to excuse Councilman Roy Jech from said meeting. Motion carried.

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ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Councilman Brochetti seconded by Councilman Tuma to adjourn said meeting. Motion carried.

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C E R T I F I C A T I O N

I, Kenneth A. Ramser, Clerk of Council for the City of Parma, Ohio, do hereby certify the above to be a true and correct copy of the Minutes from the Regular Council Meeting held on Monday, August 6, 2012.

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KENNETH A. RAMSER  
CLERK OF COUNCIL

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SEAN P. BRENNAN  
PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.  
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COMMENTS FROM REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, AUGUST 6, 2012  
REGARDING FIRE SAFETY HOUSE:

ORDINANCE NO: 145-12 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY INC. FOR THE REIMBURSEMENT FOR A CITY PROJECT FOR ROAD LIGHTING AND PARKING LOTS IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY PROJECT LOCATED ON WEST RIDGEWOOD DRIVE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Councilwoman Lime – If we could have, first, an explanation from either the Mayor or the Service Director pertaining to this ordinance?

Mr. Higgins – As you are aware, we passed some legislation and hired GPD Group to do some Engineering work for us. So, while we are not going to do double construction around here. We needed a lot done behind Memorial Hall inclusive to the sidewalk along the walkway, the guard rail and the resurfacing of the parking lot. Also, as you are aware the exit way we have here at City Hall isn't the best location for that. A study has been done on that. So, we wanted to move the entranceway a little further east from here. Along with moving that east, I needed the lower parking lot that is in deplorable condition is going to be brought up to grade and tie into this parking lot that we have here at City Hall. So, one of the alternate bids was \$85 thousand. That was for the back parking lot behind Memorial Hall and the other alternate bid was for the new entranceway with a light, the lifting of the parking lot, the closing of this driveway coming in, was \$424 for a total of \$509 thousand. The request is for Council to move forward at \$279. Discussions with the Library group, they will contribute \$230 thousand towards that \$509. So our responsibility would be the \$279.

Councilwoman Lime – Question is, this is being paid for out of 405 and Professional Services. Is this a budgeted item in 405?

Mr. Higgins – The other thing we benefit from this is the Library crew is going to manage this portion of the project. So, we don't have those costs either, but yes, we've got it taken care of. This won't have to be reimbursed to the library until next year some time. Discussion with the Auditor, we hope to pay cash for it. We do have a Note out there that we can utilize when we roll it over if we need, but we will be able to pay for it in cash I believe.

Councilwoman Lime – So, this will be something that will be budgeted in 2013, 405 Account. And next question would be and I am sorry I am asking so many questions, but this is coming under Suspension of the Rules instead of going into Committee. So, the next question would be, what will have to be cut out of 405 in order to pay for this next year. I understand that it needs to be done, I understand that the parking lot up behind Memorial Hall needs to be done, I understand that there are different issues out there that need to be handled, but again I am looking at it, and you know what? As I

said to you this afternoon, on a scale of 1 to 10, is this a 1 project or is this a 10 project if the City was taking care of it themselves?

Mr. Higgins – Like we discussed this afternoon. You can't move forward and do a library project and then move in here next year and do the rest of that. Every year, under our roads program, we do different parking lots. We did some stuff down at State Road 2 years ago, we did some parking lot at Ries Rink this year. I did the City Hall parking lot behind us I believe last year. So this is just going to fall into play with monies we would have spent in roadway work anyway. So, I don't think anything is going to change for next year because we are assuming these costs.

Councilwoman Lime – I am going to ask the question that everyone is here for. So, when this is all done and it is all part of it, it's all part of the parking lot of the library and connecting Day Drive into this whole complex up here. I asked it a few months ago, I had discussion with the Mayor and the Service Director, I asked the question a few months ago and I am asking you again tonight. What happens to the Fire Safety House? And I know there is a bunch of e-mails going around. I haven't been privy to them, but Mr. Ramser reminded me this afternoon that I asked this question about three months ago and at that point in time, the library couldn't tell us what was happening to the Fire Safety House. So, I am asking again, and the reason why I am bringing this up is because this is not going to Committee unless you want to refer it to committee and I will ask the questions in the Committee Meeting.

Mayor DeGeeter – Let me just say this to reiterate what we talked about this afternoon in the office with Councilwoman Lime, as well as other Council members. This Administration, myself has every 100% commitment to continue the Fire Safety Program. It is about educating kids to avoid what we saw what happened on Torrington Avenue in 1992, and I am grateful that there are firefighters here that show the commitment that our Chief's here to show that commitment. What we have done since I have gotten here, we've had almost every department working on this, trying to find an alternative site due to the fact there is a new \$14 million library being built adjacent to the Senior Center. With that, we have looked at numerous sites; the most recent one that we felt was a viable option was partnering with Parma Hospital. And I want to publicly commend Parma Hospital for their commitment with working with us as they do with other projects and with this one. We thought it was a viable option to move into the Health Education Center to the point that I personally went out and knocked on doors on Thoreau Drive, letting those residents know that that Fire Safety House was going to be moved there. What happened since then is we got the engineering statements back to say that the cost for the foundation, the cost for the sewer hookups and with the move would exceed more than \$100 thousand. With budget constraints as we all know that we have here, with the fact that we need to purchase additional fire trucks, was made and determined that that was no longer a viable option. Prior to that we looked at Tri C, we also had discussion with the schools. So, this has been on the front burner since we have been here looking at places. The Fire Safety Program will continue. We will want to work with everybody here. I am a windshield guy. I have said that in the past. I am not a rear view mirror person. So, with our Safety Director, with our Fire Chief here and other dedicated folks that are involved, we believe we have an alternative down at the Boyko building, the family house behind it. If that doesn't

work out at the end of the day, we will continue until we have that. The most key and the most important thing to remember is that we need to educate those kids so we have a fire safety program so we do not see what happened on Torrington. I don't know if the Safety Director has anything to add beyond that with some of those alternative sites that we looked at, working with our Engineer Melissa Morrow who has spent countless hours on this and countless meetings here working on it. We will find a solution, it will work, we will have a program, we will also have a \$14 million library adjacent to City Hall that I am hopeful with that there and the future redevelopment of Parmatown Mall that this will be a vibrant town center that will be redeveloped and re-imagined here in these touch points on Day Drive, the Hospital, City Hall, our Court, the Library and everything else all the retail around it.

Councilwoman Lime – Thank you, Mayor, for your comments, and you know what? I am not putting the whammy on you at all. I know that you have been working hard on this. I have had discussion with you on this many times. But my personal opinion is, and this is the way I intend on voting on this is, the library needs to step up to the plate and the library needs to pay. I haven't found anybody in Ward 2 yet that is in favor of closing that library down there. I understand that they want to build a \$14 million regional library here. That is wonderful, but I can sit on a bench on Ridge Road and tell you the families that walk there and they are not in favor. And, I am representing those folks down there who don't want the library to close, who don't want the Fire Safety House, and I know we will have a program, but the point of it is, the library wants to build up here than that's the cost of them doing business, they need to step up to the plate and I would be happy to stand there and tell the Director or the Board that you need to step up to the plate and they need to come up with \$100 thousand to move it over to the Health Care Center if that is what it is going to cost. Even if it goes down into the Boyko Building, they need to step up to the plate, I don't want to see public dollars, 405 dollars, community development dollars going to fixing or redoing something that we already have and is working well for the City. That is my comment. So my vote will be no on this tonight.

Mr. Higgins – The Legislation in front of us tonight is not about the Fire Safety House or the Library. It's about projects we asked them to bid out to enhance our City Hall area. So, your vote tonight is not against a Fire Safety House. Keep in mind, the vote on this legislation is to improve the entranceway, which is a safety issue here at City Hall, the parking lot that needs to be done, regardless, back there and this parking lot down here. So, keep in mind, Council, when you make your vote, it's not for or against the Safety House which I think everybody is for. It is for the upgrades that we need to include in this project.

Councilman Tuma – That is one of the things that I wanted to clarify. Again, this legislation tonight was not anything dealing directly with the Fire Safety House, where we are putting it or not putting it. It sounds to me, Mrs. Lime, like the Administration is fully committed to going forward with the Fire Safety House and keeping that. Believe me, I understand, you are doing a great job for your constituents with how they feel about the whole library project. I get that. I just don't want everybody to throw the baby out with the bath water on this particular piece of legislation. Unless you feel that the library should be stepping up and paying more money towards this particular project

back there. I don't know what the negotiations were but those figures that you guys came up with the Administration, Service Director, I trust were reasonable balance as far as what they are doing. I'm asking.

Mr. Higgins – At the end of the day, the library, the vote for not putting that library up there should have been when the property was dealt out to them, not now. But, they were moving forward with their plan and project, which also included some other nice things for us. They are redoing the whole parking lot area up there at the senior area. That also is in deplorable condition. So, that is also part of their project that they are paying for to begin with. The rest of the stuff at the end of the day, if we didn't ask to go ahead and bid it out for us, we would stay just like this and we would be stepping in here and doing it anyway at total cost to us.

Councilman Tuma – Okay, so this is something that we would need to do anyway.

Mr. Higgins – Absolutely.

Councilman Tuma - I think this is actually a good example of regionalism in action. Where you have the City and County actually working together on a project where it might have cost us a little bit more in the long run instead of doing this in conjunction with the County. So, I understand where you are coming from Mrs. Lime. I certainly can appreciate where a number of your constituents feel the way that they do about closing that library. It is close to a lot of people's hearts, but I think it would be prudent to go forward with this legislation tonight. Thank you.

Mayor DeGeeter – And one comment that the Service Director forgot to mention also on that parcel up there, the improvements in front of the Senior, they have taken on the responsibility to maintain that, snow plow that. So, that alleviates additional resources to direct elsewhere as we move forward on the project, that parking lot up there where the library is and adjacent to the Senior Center.

Councilwoman Galinas – I am concerned also about the Safety House. Everyone is. When we first started talking about this project, Mayor you were not here. There was another Mayor sitting in that chair. The promise was that the Fire Safety House was going to remain in Parma. I am hearing you make that same promise. I take him at his word that it is going to happen. Now, the cost of it is a whole other story. That remains to be seen. But, if this Mayor promises that the Fire Safety House will remain in Parma, I am going to hold him to that promise because it is important. I know that you can't always fulfill what a former Mayor says as you step into his post, but I believe that we will, it is important and I'm going to support that. Again, I do hear what Director Higgins says about this particular piece of legislation. It is associated with but it is not really relative to the Fire Safety House. So, I understand being upset about it and demanding that we have that Fire Safety House for our kids, but I think that's maybe a fight for another day. We will find some funds. Even if we have to raise funds, we will find funds. We will get that established.

Councilwoman Lime – I have no doubt in my mind that we will not have a Fire Safety House. There is no doubt in my mind that, and I know that the Administration has been

working hard on trying to find an alternative location. But, again, those alternative locations are costing dollars. No matter how you look at it, they are costing dollars. My point is, I don't think the City of Parma should expend those dollars. Again, it's the cost of doing business that the library has to incur to move the fire house. Move it, whatever is necessary, but it is the cost of doing business. That is my point. So, the discussion of the Fire Safety House of having a program or not having a program isn't even an issue. In 1992, when that boy, the one boy died on Torrington, my son played baseball with him. I remember what an impact it had on my children because they personally knew that boy that had died in that fire that day. So, I understand about that and Mr. Ciarrone is a resident of Ward 2. I was here, just as Mr. Kish was here, I believe Mr. Dobeck was here and Mr. Jech was here when Mr. Ciarrone got that house donated with another Firefighter, to the City and he pounded the pavement to raise the money. It was not City money that was used to equip that Fire House, and that is one of the things that the Fire Department holds pride in. They raised the money. So, do they go out and have to raise the money again? It wasn't City funds the first time it was done, it shouldn't be City funds the second time it is done. Again, it's the cost of doing business for the library. And, yes, you know what, I understand what Mr. Tuma is saying about this project and about this all being done, but again, I say to you, on a project of 1 to 10, on the list of 1 to 10 of priorities that needed to be done in the City, was it 1, was it 5, or was it 10? That is the question. I have a problem committing that kind of money to, out of 405 next year when we don't know. If you would come to me next year and say we want to put this in the budget for 405, now you are making a commitment for that for 405 but in the meantime, if Community Development loses 25% of their budget in Federal funds that's catch basin money, that is road money. So, that is money that has to come from some place else. It will have to come out of 405. So, what else is going to suffer? So, again, I just have a problem with this whole thing in the library and the way they are doing it and no matter how you look at it when we voted for, because I checked the voting record, when we voted for the consultant to come in here and do this, if you remember, I voted yes but I voted with comment and my comment was about the cost moving forward. So, no matter how you look at it's all tied together into one project. That's why I am voting the way I vote.

Mr. Brennan – Roll Call.

Yes: Napoli, Tuma, Brochetti, Casselberry, Day, Divis, Galinas.

No: Lime; Ordinance No. 145-12 is adopted.

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#### PUBLIC SESSION:

Fire Chief John French – I would like to introduce Steve Eierdam. He is the son of the last Parma Firefighter that died in the line of duty, Richard Eierdam, whom the Fire Safety House was named after.

Mr. Eierdam – I heard about this just yesterday. So, I had to collect my thoughts together about it and my feelings. My mother is over there by the way. I don't know if

you remember. I'm sure most people might remember Monday, March 30, 1981. That is when Reagan was shot. Our family was thinking about something else. My father passed away at the same time that happened from fighting a fire at Parma High School caused by an arsonist or arsonists. We went through a lot of stuff, but this house was dedicated to my father. It's not just that safety house, it is Richard Eierdam Safety House. It meant a lot to us. We were there for the opening. We are hoping that it can be saved and not knocked down and destroyed. That is all I have to say about it. These are my thoughts and like I said, I just heard about this last night and I think it would be a disservice to the community, to the kids, this whole teaching/learning experience. I think it would just be wrong.

Fire Chief John French – First of all, the house fire 1992, there was two boys, there was Jason and Timmy. It's not just that they died in a house fire. It is the way it happened. They were most likely playing with the fire. They most likely started the fire. That is one factor. Another factor is they were in an upstairs bedroom and when you exited that bedroom into the hallway, you had two choices; down the steps and out or furthering into the house where you couldn't get out. Those kids took that choice, and those are two huge factors and that is what kind of hit home for the Fire Department saying hey we have to do something more. At that time, we would go out and do "STOP, DROP AND ROLL" and we tell people get low when there is smoke and all those standard things. We all know that you can hear something from someone talking and you are going to learn a little bit, but if you touch it, you feel it, you smell it, you are going to retain more. Another thing a lot of people might not know is Mayor Mike Ries, he was the Mayor around that time, he actually I believe was the instigator of the project. It was totally unacceptable to him that we lost those kids like that. So, he was the first one to really step up and say hey something has to be done. I'm not even sure how it happened, but he hooked up with Rich Ciarrone from Parma Fire Department and at the time Fire Fighter Desmarteau from the Seven Hills Fire Department and they actually picked the ball up and ran with it. I believe the Mayor of the City, maybe he got the money through donations or whatever, but he kicked in \$25 Grand to move the house and then the firefighters raised somewhere in the neighborhood of \$75 or \$80 thousand I believe to make the project happen, to take care of the interior and set some things up. Another part of the firemen's part of it is they got other cities involved. We knew that this was a bigger issue than just Parma Fire Department and the City of Parma. There are kids in all these other cities. So, they picked up the Cities of Parma Heights, North Royalton and Seven Hills who also became partners in the project and have been ever since. I have one thing to note; it is hard to measure a negative, but we have not lost a child to fire since that occurred. I think that is pretty big and that's in all of those cities that are involved. And that is huge in itself. Again, their touching, their doing, their learning, and it's something that they have a better chance of retaining over just seeing a filmstrip or hearing you say something. We understand the current location doesn't work. The library is coming in, the house has got to go. At least I understand it, I know the Safety Director and the Mayor didn't want the house to go. They wouldn't have preferred that, but that's the way the project fell into place and that is what is going to happen. Over the weekend and a little bit this morning, we removed all of our stuff out of the house. We took away a two-way mirror that was a factor, heated door, all kinds of script, furniture and things like that that made the house what it was. At this time, it is probably going to be demolished. It's probably going to



happen, and it's going to hurt. Every Fireman in the City of Parma and all those other cities will feel it because they put a lot of sweat, equity and time into that house, but I believe the Mayor and Safety Director are going to continue this project. The Mayor said he did review a bunch of sites already, I don't even know, six or seven sites probably and three stood out. It's going to happen, we thought it was going to happen, but conditions beyond their control or our control, they are not going to happen, they are not the best site. To me, the house is probably going to be demolished. Everybody is in favor of doing it. Let's do it right. Let's get a place that both sides agree that this is it, maintain fiscal responsibility and do it obviously as cheap as we can do it. We have to make it work. In fact, just by changing it we have to improve it. We would like to add some other features. A Safety Town, bring the Police up to the project. We had an issue a little over a year ago within a six month period where two elderly women passed away in grease fires in their house, and that really shouldn't have happened. It was the same kind of thing. We would like to expand it to the elderly. That is something that we want to do and we are going to do. If we are changing the house, we have to improve it. You can't just change it and make it a little less than it was and even making it exactly what it was, it isn't enough. I believe, again, the Mayor and Safety Director are behind it and it's going to work. The location that is on the table right now, we looked at it and it doesn't seem like it will be the best option, but again we haven't really gone back and forth. We will look into it as deep as we can, but if it doesn't work, like the Mayor said, we will continue looking for something better. We are going to make it right, we are not going to build it in a flood zone, we can't just put that house anywhere that is existing. It is a bungalow. It is important, and we have a lot of time, money, and effort into it. I understand like anything else, some times things don't go your way. It is beyond our control and I can live with that. Again, I believe the Administration is going to help make this happen and I am going to stay positive on it and we will do what we can to see it through. I don't know that you will get as many volunteer hours and all that and some of the guys that really did a lot in the past are a little older now, including the two guys that started it. Not to insult them, but they are not moving as fast, but we do have some young blood. We will have to see how it plays out, but again, I consider it no other option, but it's going to continue but we all have to keep it up on the burner and keep thinking about it and talking about it. Any questions?

Mr. Brennan – Thank you very much Chief. We appreciate your comments. You made a really good point and what I just realized with your comments is that everybody in this room has more in common than we have differences. The important thing is, is that the program is going to continue. Nobody in their right mind would be against a program like this. Why would you? If there is anybody in the audience that feels that the Mayor or myself or any member of Council or any other elected or appointed official is against the idea of a Parma Safety Program such as this, you are just plain wrong. What would anybody have to gain by being against a program like this? If you do a fund raiser, I will tell you right now, I will be the first one to make a donation. So, thank you for your comments.

John Desmarteau, Parma Resident, 1373 Shenandoah Oval, Assistant Chief for Middleburg Heights Fire Department but as the Chief said I got started with Rich Ciarrone with this project back when I was a Parma Heights Fireman and a Seven Hills Fire Fighter. It has been such a tough project along the way but a very valuable project

for not just the City of Parma here but for the region. These firemen that I am so proud to be a part of have created something that has never been created in the State of Ohio before and it is looked towards as like a wow factor. The City of Parma should be proud. A lot of sweat equity went into the facility as well as a lot of hard work of raising a lot of money. And the Chief was right. I can't take credit for the idea and neither can Rich Ciarrone. It was the late Mayor Ries who sat at his chair up there. He was affected by that Torrington Avenue fire just like we were. When we start talking as paramedics up at the hospital together as we all run in there into our common bond there at Parma Hospital at the time, we start talking we can't let this happen again. Let's go out and buy a trailer and we tried to do that regionalization thing that people didn't think of a long time ago but we started back then with this project. We said let's get a regional trailer because at that time there was only one for the County, and you couldn't get it as much as you wanted. The Mayor goes to his credit, the late Mayor Ries, he goes, "No, we are going to do one better. I am going to get a house from that Target site, we are going to move it over here and then I am challenging you guys to put it together." How it all fell on Rich's and my shoulders, we saw the need and we ran with it and with a lot of great help from the fire fighters out there. And the ones we can't forget about is those teachers out there that, we are fire fighters, we are paramedics, we are not teachers, but we learned a lot of great things from these teachers. Rosemary Gulik from the Parma City School District. How do we best approach students at this age group to get the message out where it is going to make an impact? It has been a great unity of so many different entities pushing in, so many great resources from the region, putting it all together to get to where we are today. Darn it. Us as Fire Safety Officials as leaders as well as the people here in this room, we failed our constituents. When that ordinance was signed into legislation to do that land swap with the County Library System, we should have start sitting together then to come up with an action plan as to how to make this work so there is no down time. There is no way we are going to get it up and running for the next school year the way it stands now. We failed the constituents that we serve. We saw what was going to be happening, questions were asked, its going to fall into place, we failed them, its not in place. These are just a small snippet of all the great comments coming from teachers and parents that have been through this program. I just want to hit a couple strong points from some of them. "The program was very helpful and educational. I was glad to have had the opportunity to attend with my son and his class. Again, this field trip was so important to the safety of these children, I am so glad that Parma has this available as a means to better education so many children on fire safety." "Excellent presentation. Thank you so much for providing such an awesome educational learning experience. God bless you." "Thank you Officer Rich. It's amazing how much influence your program has. You always do such a fine job. Please extend our appreciation to all the fire fighters. This is always an outstanding trip. It is perfectly synchronized. The materials presented appropriately for the grade. Most of the information is essential for the safety of their lives." "Thank you very much for putting together such an outstanding program for the children. The entire experience is invaluable. I feel so fortunate that our school was able to participate in this program. I hope that many other students will be able to do the same." We are not going to be able to do that for a while now, and I just hope, and like the Chief said, since the inception of this program there has not been one child fatality due to fire in the region. Have we been lucky and blessed or has it been because we are saving lives through education which is the motto or our program. I appreciate

Melissa Morrow. God bless her. She is a Saint. She has put so much effort towards this. The bottom line at the end of the Day; we don't have a solution to our problem. I look forward to working with each and every one of you. I look forward to working with these guys. Like the Chief said, we raised over \$100 thousand to make this a regional asset and then to have it bulldozed. You know, going over there with Chief French on Sunday to take all that stuff out of there, it's tough. At the beginning of this project, we didn't know what kind of impact it was going to have. Now we know and then to just leave it go by the wayside or have that delay. I wish I had a million dollars that I didn't know what to do with and I could just give it to the City to say wow, we are going to create a safety village, work in conjunction with our brothers from the law enforcement, teach gun safety, teach drug safety and then do our thing from the fire side and make it a regional asset again. You have that down time. I look forward to working so hard with you guys to get that back up and running as soon as possible. Our kids are depending on it and like Chief French said, where we failed, we have not gotten to the seniors enough and that is what (end of side of tape) ..population, there very vulnerable kid as well as the elderly and that was a vision that Rich Ciarrone and I had and talked with the Chief to build a third complex. Seniors would have a hard time getting in our upstairs dormer where the class room is, but to get a class room but still bring them into that house to be able to show them first hand the importance of the grease fire issue and everything else that they need to know. It has been a great journey, like I said it was hard Sunday doing what we had to do. We need to work together for the safety of our children. Thank you.

Unknown – Thank you for this opportunity to speak publicly. I actually first would like to congratulate Les. I forget his last name and Flo who were recognized here tonight. He sounds like a fine gentleman and very active in his community. As you were describing him this evening, I thought of John and Rich because all those characters and qualities and virtues are the same that they possess. The Fire Safety House was a lot of blood, sweat and tears. For three years, John's family and our family, and I don't say this like I am expecting a pat on the back or like I should be somebody special, but three years of our personal time to come up with that amount of money to do what we did with that Fire Safety House. Good luck. I don't know if we have commitment like that today. I question it; I sincerely do, and I am not a negative person by nature for the most part, but I question it. It took a lot for them to do this and our families gave up a lot, but we had a vision and we had a mission and truly even from the inception of this, I'm not really sure about the whole specifics about the house and how the house, I know it was given to, the City did take care of the house, because it was just going to be done away with. So, that they did, but the beginning of this was because that smoke trailer that the whole County, it's nice that we regionalize right, but the whole County, all the kids in the County had to try and get use of this thing or at least a major part of the Cleveland metropolitan area. So, these guys said, well, maybe we can get a trailer together so we can at least serve the people of the Parma City Schools. Let's start there. And then the house came along and then there came the big idea. Now you have something; you can't find anything finer. You really should read those papers we brought. The teachers, over and over and over again, "This is the best field trip." "This is the best by far." And its free. First I am going to say, behind every good man is a good woman. So, I am going to toot my own horn a little bit, but you know what? I'm right in the place where I am really at home, aren't I? We all here know how to toot our own horn

don't we. Sometimes a little too much. Just my little personal opinion. But I am going to say, behind every good man is a good woman and I stand here because it's a worth while cause. You guys are going to throw away something. They just put in an improvement and brand new painting. All done, top to bottom and you think you could just throw it away and start all over and just raise the funds? Are you kidding me? You are the first ones to tell us about how fiscally bankrupted we all are. You think people have money growing on trees? I don't think so. Come on, let's be realistic. You got something there, ready to go. And after millions and billions of dollars, whatever this project is, you don't have a hundred grand to reset this thing on another foundation? When you were told over a year and a half ago, a letter went to all of you that this was going to be a problem. Let's not have the eleventh hour, and here we are, in the eleventh hour, and we are going to smash it to the ground. I think you all should be pretty ashamed. I really do. I think it is a crying shame. I really do. And I question with the exception, and I hope I don't get these two ladies in trouble but Debbie Lime came to my house once because whoever the critter catcher is wasn't available. She came and took a skunk out of my yard. Who wants to do that and that sounds simple and silly, but that's it. Excuse me, please. Unless something is really hurting at home do you really have to look at your cell phone please? Excuse me with all due respect, please? I'm a citizen just like you. My husband is proud to work in this

City and I am standing here because he was made to feel that he could not speak his own words here and not that he couldn't, he could, because he is a very proud man, and I am not standing here because he can't. He could, but he took the high road. So, I am standing here, I wasn't expecting to talk because he does it much better than I do, and Mary, I know you have guts, because I have seen you in action in other ways. So, I just want to say, if you questioned their enthusiasm, John and Rich are two fine examples of hard working men who have given, this Fire Safety House is a feather in your cap. It does nothing but bring you accolades. Nothing. All good stuff. It pumps you up, it makes you feel good, and you should. Parma should be proud of it. You really should. It is a beautiful thing, but you just want to raise it to the ground. Come on people. Really. That's why people don't have hope any more. Because of this. You can come up with everything else and God knows we need the storm sewers cleaned out. I agree with that. And I totally applaud bringing business into the City. Excellent. As a citizen, that is what you guys really are here for. So I applaud that. If this is going to bring business into the City, its going to bring community, that is great, but I don't think you have to shove that thing to the ground to have that step forward. Please, please, please reconsider. Thank you.

Carol Letchner, Councilwoman from Seven Hills – I am a fire daughter, sister, wife and now mother. My son, who is now an Independence Fire Department, and I asked him today, I said, "Jake, did you go to the classes at the Parma Fire House?" He said, "Yes mom I did, I learned a lot over there." And he said, "That's kind a little bit more reason why, not only the fact that it's a family business, that I decided to go into the Fire Department, because I saw how the kids really appreciated the Firemen and they know that the firemen are there to help them." I was on the phone, right before I walked into the Council Chambers, with my Mayor. Mayor DeGeeter, I put Rick on our task. I said, "Rick we have to find a place for a house." So, please work with Rick. I know it's Parma Fire House, but we are right across the border. We are willing to share. We are all in the same school district. If I can help you in any way, I will be more than happy.

Councilwoman Lime had an excellent idea. We need to make the Library step up. They are taking our property, not our property, but property that was used for a very good cause, and they can at least put up some money for it. They are spending a lot of money to build a building that really doesn't need to be built, but they, I'm sure, could put a little bit extra money in and find us a place. If it's a foreclosed home somewhere that could be made into a fire house to help more kids, because it is so very important guys. It really is. Please don't let it drop. Please don't let it drop. I beg of you. And, Mayor, like I said, if you need any help, please give me a call. Thank you.

Brian Downy, 6503 Gerald Avenue – I have been on the Parma Fire Department for 18 years. I was listening here tonight to the comments, and I am glad to hear everybody express commitment to restoring the Fire Safety House. I don't know how it came to be to where we are today that it can't be done with the current facility or incorporate it. I think that is a shame. I want to have faith in Mr. Mayor in what you say if you are going to be dedicated, but also what I am hearing, the City is behind it, but there may have to be fund raisers, you may have to do it all on your own again. But 18 years ago, Mayor Ries and this Council gave \$25,000 to a group of motivated dedicated people, and they turned that into an award winning nationally recognized facility that's being tossed away. I want to believe that this is going to get rebuilt, I want to believe that there is a commitment, but forgive my skepticism. I spent five years on the Fire Station Planning Committee and I had a chance to do a little research. I know that when the Police Station on W. 54<sup>th</sup> Street was built in 1954, the Police Report in 1964 called for it to be replaced and rebuilt because it was already outdated. It took 40 years to do that. I know that in the 1960's they were calling for the replacement of Fire Stations that we already had and in fact, 1949 Station 2 was built as a temporary Fire Station. It was temporary until 2007 when it was replaced. I hope this Council has more of a commitment than the previous Councils and Administrations have had to take care of City facilities and to take care of things that actually are a shining jewel for this City. When we would have classes up at the Safety House, two years we had the Safety Fair there for one reason; and I know Councilwoman Galinas and I had discussions on that because that is a shining jewel in this City that most people don't know we have. And when people went through there, in particular the parents, when their kids came home from school the day of the Safety House, they thought they went to the Fire House down here on Powers. They had no idea that that little white building had that much of an impact on their kids and that sat there. We had calls from people from outside Parma wanting to come here to bring their school kids in because no one else had that. So, again, I appreciate your comments, appreciate my skepticism because of the history that this City has shown towards getting things done when it has been promised or when it has been needed, and I hope to God we don't wait 40 years for a Safety House to be replaced. Dedicated group of people who are ready to do something, but you can't keep counting on donations and doing it all on your own. There's got to be a commitment from this Council and this Administration to get it done. And if you think about the \$25,000 16 or so years ago that was give, that's about \$1,500.00 a year it cost this City to put that thing into operation. And that is a pretty good bang for the buck. Thank you.

Mayor DeGeeter – Again, just to reiterate my comments earlier during consideration of Ordinance relative to Library property, we have continued to look, we will continue to

work to make sure this great program continues with all the energy and commitment that we have heard from individuals coming up tonight. I know we can do this. As you all know, I have a young family. I have a son that is 4 and a daughter that will be 1 this week. I want to make sure they are safe. That they have great programs like this that we continue that we hear so many of those stories of those kids that have gone through there and have learned from that program. So, we will continue to work with our Safety Director and those individuals out there and City Officials along with Council will move forward. A couple of things on a side note. I want to give Council information on our demolition funding. As you may be aware, we receive \$200 thousand from the County Prosecutors and Detact funds, as well as a match of \$100 thousand from our Attorney General. So, we received last week, \$200 thousand towards administration of administered by the County Land Bank for substandard housing demolished program that this Council started several years ago. Additionally, we had asked for through the State, \$250 thousand, there were a number of other communities that applied as well. So, at this point, we are grateful. We didn't receive all the requested \$250 thousand, but we received \$35,714.00 that will go in with what Council also appropriated through Community Development Block Grant Funding. So, I will have Eric Tollerup forward this to you on the breakdown that we had. Two other things, we did have Parma Community Night at the Indians while we were on break. It was the last time that the Indians actually won a game on July 26<sup>th</sup>. We sold 450 tickets. That more than doubled the tickets sold in 2011 and as you may be aware, one of our own residents who turned 8 a few days after was granted the opportunity, won the raffle, to throw out the first pitch. Additionally, we haven't discussed this publicly, but there is a new mini golf that you may be aware of, golf course in State Road Park that is getting tremendous play, tremendous feedback from our Rec Department. So, I would ask you to check it out. It is adjacent to the playground area at State Road Park/Veterans Park. So, take a look at that. It is being used by young and old, and it's just a really exciting addition to State Road Park.

Safety Director Baeppler – Just a couple of comments. We are going to continue to bring the other participating agencies to the table for this Fire Safety House. We think it is a viable and good program. We worked hard with Mr. Ciarrone, Chief French, Assistant Chief DeMarteau and others, and we have been having meetings over the last year and a half. To portray this as an eleventh hour effort is disingenuous at best. Up till the middle of May, we felt we had a viable alternative at Tri C. We had the cooperation of their Police Academy and Fire Academy and it was set to go forward. For reasons that had to do with architecture review, whatever, the College decided that they wanted to make a significant departure from their participation. They said we could store it there and that was not a viable alternative. We then went forward, after Tri C, we worked with the Parma School District. We sat down. Members of the Fire Department, Engineering, myself and the School Administration, and we went through every single property looking for a viable alternative. Especially because of the fact that there was property available because of school closings. At one juncture we felt that we had the chance to put it at Pearl Elementary which is in Parma Heights, but that is really immaterial because Parma Heights has been part of this effort as had Middleburgh and several of the other cities. The location, as long as it is within our area, hasn't been the primary lack restriction, we were willing to put it any where as long as it is within our general area and it was still Parma Fire Safety House which has been a conglomeration

of like we said from the very start. After that, we had significant discussion with Parma Hospital and explored several locations; one of them we thought was extremely viable down at the bottom of what used to be Fay Junior High School. We wanted the ones up by the State, but that didn't work with the Hospital. The Hospital has worked with us from the word go. They have tried to be a really good partner to us. They gave us a place to store it up to November if that was the case, if that is what we needed. In any event, we thought we had a viable alternative there. Again, the Mayor went to all the residences that are behind that which would have been impacted, they could have seen it from their houses on Thoreau, and that is how committed we were to going forward at that point. Unfortunately, a couple days later we found out that there was going to be a significant additional cost, more than doubling what we thought we would have to put into it. It actually went from \$40 thousand to over \$100 thousand. That being the case, we then pulled back and we continued to look. Recently it came to light about the residence behind the Boyko house, behind the Boyko building. There are some defects to that, but we feel they possibly can be taken care. There is also some really good things that could come from that. There could be some funding that we could work with that could make it a viable alternative. I have to tell you, that it is pretty much a mirror of what the other Fire Safety House was with the exception of it is a brick building. One other significant change and that is, when we first started looking at this whole operation and moving, two things came to mind; and it came from the Fire Department. They are worried, not just about the children, we also had a couple of seniors die from fires in the last few years, and they thought why not expand it a little bit and also have it be for the seniors. And, also, because there were a lot of people in Parma that now have families coming back or there are more people than there are bedrooms, people are living in the basement and we thought as long as we are going to do this, let's do this with a foundation, with a basement so we can add that to our training. The Chief was more adept to speaking to this, but there is fire safety exits they can use in a basement application. So, those things were all taken into consideration. We feel that the Boyko property is viable, there is parking. If it isn't, that doesn't mean, if it turns out it isn't, we are not going to stop. From the very beginning, when we were sitting down a year ago and then five months ago and six months ago, the whole idea was to cut down the drag time from the time that this Fire Safety House is going to be closed. Unfortunately, due to circumstances beyond Chief French, Assistant Chief DeMarteau, Ciarrone, myself, the Mayor, that didn't occur. It wasn't because the entire group didn't try. We are going to continue though; we are going to go forward.

Councilwoman Lime – There is no doubt in my mind, I know the Administration has worked hard on this Fire Safety House and I know that they have been wracking their brains and they have been really pushing forward with that. I commend them for that and I am glad to see we are working towards a resolution on this. I was here in 1992 when Jason died. My son, my older son played baseball with them and I can remember the impact of having that friend, that baseball kid die, how it impacted him. I remember later on we named one of the baseball fields after Jason. I remember that boy. We talked about it as a family when you start talking about things as you get old and we still talk about how that happen what the impact was. I've had nephews, only one of my sons was able to go through the Fire Safety Program because of age, but all three of my nephews have gone through it. I have been in there, I have gone through it. I remember when you and Rich Ciarrone came up to the podium, and I correct myself,

Dennis Kish was the only one that was here, I remember when the \$25,000 was voted on. I remember Mayor Ries, this was a passion for him and he wanted this. I remember you guys pounding the pavement to look for that money. That's where I have a hard time with. It's kind of like, you are right, there is a lot of blood sweat and tears in that, and I would actually like to see us use that house and move it and maybe put a basement in it or whatever. But the thing is, I truly believe that the Library needs to step up to the plate. I don't know what else to say, but this is the cost of doing business. Fourteen Million dollars for a library up here. A \$100 thousand is chump change. Sorry it is. I am going to ask Mr. Ramser if he could have the minutes from the round robin and from the comments of the public transcribed and I would ask that you please share them with the Library, Executive Director and their Board Members so that they can see that this is an issue for the citizens. This is not just something that one Council person or yourself or the Safety Director is bringing forward; that this is actually a passionate issue within the community, and I would hope that they would do something and do the right thing and help to fund it and moving that specific building to a good location.

Councilman Napoli – Let me just say, I am actually surprised that the Library wouldn't want to fund this. That is just a great neighbor. It's educational, it all ties into the children with the library and the whole nine yards. There isn't anybody up here, by the way, that does not take this seriously and is not on the same side as you that this has to stay, it has to thrive and it can't wait around. Not 40 years, not 4 years, not 4 months. It has to continue. I'm not sure what they are doing this year with it, but has it stopped because of this right now? That is what I need to know and if it is, can't you do something to retrofit for these kids, even though we don't have the physical going through the, maybe some type of presentation at least until we can get this rolling. There is not question, this has to get rolling and I know there will be dedication up here and if there is a fund raiser of any thing involved, I will dedicate myself to being involved in helping raise the funds for that, even though I do agree that the Library really should, in good faith, put out for this cost. It was nice to see Brian up here. Brian took me and Council President Sean Brennan though a Field of Heat down in the southern part of Ohio. I remember when we went through that what an incredible experience that was education for us and I know that it is the adult version of what you do for the children. We left that whole thing there completely blown away by what you guys do in the Fire Department and the Safety Forces. Just so impressive. There is not question this will not be forgotten and we will stay on this until this gets taken care of. My kids went through the same program. I know how invaluable it is. Like I said, I think everybody is on board with that. I don't want to go any further. It's going to be echoed throughout this Council this evening, but you definitely have my dedication to it as well.

Councilman Tuma – Just want to thank the residents for coming up and actually some non residents for coming up and very passionate feelings on this matter. Safety in our City is of the utmost importance to all of us on Council. Since day one in Office, I have said time and time again that without safety, you don't have anything in your community; whether that is with Police, whether that is with Fire. All of us up here on Council consistently and regularly support both our Police and our Fire Safety Forces. This obviously is a very important issue, very passionate issue. Make no mistake about



it, we will continue to work hard to remedy the situation and if there is a negative that has happened, we are going to turn it into a positive. I know the Mayor has been working with the Library. I would just ask the Administration going forward that Council be kept abreast of developments as they occur. We definitely need the information in order for us to make informed decisions as we move forward. Again, we on Council have not had direct contact or discussions with the Library ourselves. So, again, that is something going forward that we are going to ask that we have more information as it comes forward from the Administration and from the Library on this issue. Again, thank you for your passion. To those folks who were around when those little boys died. I totally agree, that should never happen again, and if there anything we can do to avoid something like that, we are going to certainly work with you.

Councilman Brochetti – I am going to be very short, because we ask residents to not be repetitive. As Mr. Napoli, Mr. Tuma, Mrs. Lime already said, every single member of Council and Administration strongly supports the Fire Safety House and everything that our Safety Forces do to educate all the residents of Parma and the surrounding areas. What I take away from this even is the powerful imagery that everyone that spoke kind of presented to us, why this was built, seeing everybody out here their show of support and really the story of taking everything from that house, from that specific location on Sunday. It is just a powerful image. The other image that was kind of thrown around a lot tonight was that this was a crown jewel in Parma, and what I want to see is that this jewel is not lost but instead, this is an opportunity to pluck that jewel, polish it, and replace it. This Fire Safety House needs to come back bigger and stronger. I have faith in the Administration, the Safety Forces, everyone that has put time and effort into this over the last couple of months to move this and find an acceptable location, that this is going to come back bigger and better and it needs to after hearing what we heard tonight. Of course, just to re-echo full support from everyone here on Council.

Councilman Casselberry – I do want to mention that my wife lived across the street from that family at that time. She told me about it at the time what an impact it had on her and it was just horrifying. So, I can tell you that I wouldn't want to disappoint them, she was friends with that family and I will do whatever I can to help keep this program going.

Councilman Day – Let me just thank everybody for coming up. Again, very passionate and certainly we all appreciate and respect your comments. We are really on board with you 100%, we agree with you. Hopefully we could look at this as more of an opportunity. It is what it is and as the Safety Director said, this isn't something that was done on the eleventh hour. There was a lot of hard work done. Again, the pieces just didn't fall into place. To me, it's got to just look as an opportunity, an opportunity to make this even maybe a bigger collaboration, and opportunity to educate even more people. Again, we talk about what a crown jewel it is. Well, there are so many charitable organizations and foundations out there. I've got to think there is a great grant writing opportunity here to obtain funds for this too. I am sure there are a lot of folks out there that would be happy to be a part of that. So, I think there could possibly be some help there to help out. Again, I have every bit of faith in the Mayor and his administration. I know he is very passionate. I have talked to him about it, as well as the Safety Director. This is going to turn out okay. They are going to make it happen

and certainly I am on my 9<sup>th</sup> year up here on Council and one thing I always take a lot of pride in, is our commitment to our Safety Forces. This Council has always been very diligent about being behind our Safety Forces 110% and I will let our record speak for that on its own. Again, we have always been very supportive and will continue to do that.

Councilman Divis – I want to echo the thoughts of everybody. There is a passionate commitment that we have from the Mayor to the Safety Forces to maintain and keep this Fire Safety House. I really truly believe that we are committed to doing it and like everybody else has said, it is for the safety of the kids, it's a jewel and we are going to keep it. No doubt.

Councilwoman Galinas – I thank everybody for coming out, because when you come out and you speak to us and share your thoughts with the passion that you do and with the great words, you really paint a picture as it was described to us. Of course, we deal with a lot of things here at City Council but when you have so many people speak with such eloquence, in my opinion and detail it really tugs at your heart and certainly we are all in favor of it and you've got that reassured I am sure tonight through all of us. I truly believe when we talked about the library and we talked about the Fire House, I specifically remember we spoke about the Fire House being saved and there was assurance it was going to be saved. I just think some times the best plans sometimes for whatever reason, I think even the Administration indicated that they are 90% pretty sure we were going to put it somewhere else and now things have fallen through. I wonder, though, if everything isn't for a reason and if this isn't going to be the best, biggest and relocated place with maybe even something in addition that we don't know that. I am ready to jump on that bandwagon as well and help do whatever we can do, whether it is raising funds or demand the County help us with this. You never know, sometimes property is donated for this type of thing when the word gets out. So, the best thing maybe around the corner with this whole project. In regard to this being a gem over here, it was hidden and I have been on Council for 11 years and you know we started the first Safety Fair and actually the Mayor was the Public Safety Chairman at that time and he was part of that effort and that house was kind of hidden where people, I didn't know as an average citizen what that house was all about. My kids went to Catholic School, but by moving this house or by this what is happening right now, we are going to educate even more people by having this happen. Not that you are trying to make lemonade out of lemons here with the situation because we have a difficulty we have to get over, but I think we will. I am committed to help doing whatever I can and I know the Mayor is too. So, we are all for it and we will keep on working on a way to get this to work out to be the best and maybe even better than what it is now.

Mayor DeGeeter – I want to clearly state one that the County Library is making a substantial investment in this town. I don't want that fact to get lost upon anybody here on Council or in the community. As you know, this Council voted or the Council a year ago or two years ago about that site being a willing partner a partnership approach. They are also, beyond that library, taking substantial investment where their Administration Building is right here in our City, that Library Branch and expanding upon that. They have been working with us. I want to make that clear. There is dialogue, that die was cast, but I just want to make sure that everyone is aware of that and want

to publicly comment on that fact that we are grateful of the fact that their Administration is here, we are grateful for the substantial investment they are doing and the partnership that we have with them and will continue to work with them. I just want to clarify that and state that as Mayor.

Mr. Brennan – As everybody was talking, I was kind of looking around up here and Mrs. Lime raised her family here, Mr. Divis raised his family here, Mr. Brochetti recently married will soon be raising his family here, Mr. Tuma has kids at home, this guy raised his family here, I've got children at home, she raised her family here, I can go all around the room. Mr. Day's got kids, Mrs. Galinas raised her family, Mr. Casselberry has got kids, Mr. Napoli has kids, the Mayor has kids. Safety is our number one concern as it should be. I go to sleep every night knowing that my family is safe because of the fine work that our Police and Fire Fighters do and I commend you for that. I am only going to say one thing negative and that is, one of the e-mails that I got this weekend said that I don't appreciate what has been done to the Fire Safety House over there. I really take issue with that. I take issue with it especially because this individual knows me and knows how much I care about this City and hopefully they just wrote that without thinking. Sometimes we do that when we send an e-mail which is why I have a 24 hour rule. So, if you didn't get an e-mail back from me, I have a 24 hour rule when people get passionate before I respond, and I like to do my homework. I am a school teacher and I am committed to education. I think the Parma Safety House is an amazing kinesthetic learning tool for the children of our City. My kids have been through it as most of the folks up here. My father in law was a former Parma Fighter, Tom Denk. So, I know how important safety is and I am committed to it just like everybody else. We are committed to Safety. We have built two new fire stations in the last several years. We turned our Police Department into a twenty-first century shining star and if you don't believe that, there are other Police Departments in the region that come to ours to use the technology and facilities that we have. We've got an incredible Fire Department that does a spectacular job. I was making a list here. We had a financial huddle this morning in the Mayor's Office. Most of that meeting we spent talking about safety issues. We talked about a Police Renewal levy, and it is a Renewal Levy. It's stated right here on the Certificate of Estimated Property Taxes provided by the County. This, if I remember correctly from the meeting this morning, represents about 30% of our Police Department's budget. Is that about right? It is extremely important. We placed that on the ballot 5 years ago during a very tumultuous time in our City. Those that were on Council and others throughout the City went out and campaigned. It was a tough campaign, but we were lucky enough to get the support for that Levy, pass it and our Police Department is what it is today. We've got to pass this levy and I hope that those that are just as passionate about the Parma Safety House will be just as passionate for the Police Renewal that is on the ballot. So, safety is our number one concern. It is something that we talk about every day up here. It dominates the dialogue at City Hall. I have spoken to the Mayor, I have spoken to the Safety Director, I have read all the e-mails and heard the comments of folks left on my answering machine and I do have faith that we are going to make this a go that this is going to continue and I am not going to repeat what everybody said already.